



U.S. Department of Justice

United States Attorney
District of New Hampshire

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MEDIA RELEASE

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**FORMER SPRINGFIELD, VT POLICE OFFICER AND WIFE
SENTENCED TO 2 YEARS FOR MAIL FRAUD, AGGRAVATED IDENTIFY THEFT**

CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE – **Robert “Dan” Lagerstedt**, 36, and his wife **Carolyn Lagerstedt**, 26, both of Claremont, New Hampshire, were each sentenced in United States District Court today to prison terms of 2 years.

The defendants were charged with Mail Fraud and Aggravated Identity Theft based on a scheme the couple perpetrated to obtain money from Household Finance Corporation (HFC) using the United States mails and the identities of other individuals. On March 29, 2005, **Dan Lagerstedt**, who was then a Police Officer with the Springfield P.D., disguised himself in a wig and opened a checking account at Lake Sunapee Bank using another person’s name, date of birth, and social security number. He deposited a \$10,450 check from HFC which represented the proceeds of a loan that he and his wife **Carolyn** had applied for in the victim’s name. Bank personnel reported the suspicious transaction to the Sunapee Police Department. Investigators later determined that **Carolyn Lagerstedt** had opened the Post Office Box in Newport, NH where the HFC check was mailed, using the identity of an additional victim.

Dan Lagerstedt later attempted to withdraw \$8,750 from the account at the Newport branch of Lake Sunapee Bank. He was identified from surveillance photos by other Officers of the Springfield, VT Police Department, and a search conducted at the couple’s Claremont house uncovered additional evidence, including the Post Office box key and packaging for a wig of the kind worn by the subject depicted in the surveillance photos.

The couple will begin serving their 2-year prison sentences on May 19, 2006. They face an additional period of home detention after they are released in 2008.

U.S. Attorney Colantuono praised the cooperation of the U.S. Postal Inspection Service Inspector in Charge of the Boston Division Peter Zegarac and the Sunapee, New Hampshire Police Department Chief David P. Cahill. Also assisting in the investigation was the Newport Police Department.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Michael J. Gunnison.